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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

SUBJECT Uranium Mine and Processing Plant in  
Heidenschanze Area (Dresden)

50X1-HUM

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URANIUM MINING OPERATIONS AT HEIDENSCHANZE AREA, JUST  
OUTSIDE THE SOUTHWESTERN CITY LIMITS OF DRESDEN

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2. HISTORY OF THE MINE: - Preliminary surveys were conducted by Soviet engineers during 1946. First operations began in 1947 on a small scale just above the rock quarry south of the highway (1). Operations were speeded up in 1949 and toward the latter part of 1951 a total of 40 truck loads of ore left the site daily for refinery plants in the USSR. The area was at first heavily guarded by MVD troops who [ ] have been replaced by Peoples Police units in uniform and plain clothes. The first information that the ore is being refined at the site was received [ ] during the summer of 1953.

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3. TYPE OF OPERATION: - Initial operations were being conducted in open pit mining. This is being continued but there are strong indications that shafts have been driven from the pits leading beneath the suburb of Coschuetz. This assumption is being supported by the fact that a number of private homes in the Coschuetz area have collapsed, presumably as the result of careless blasting operations.

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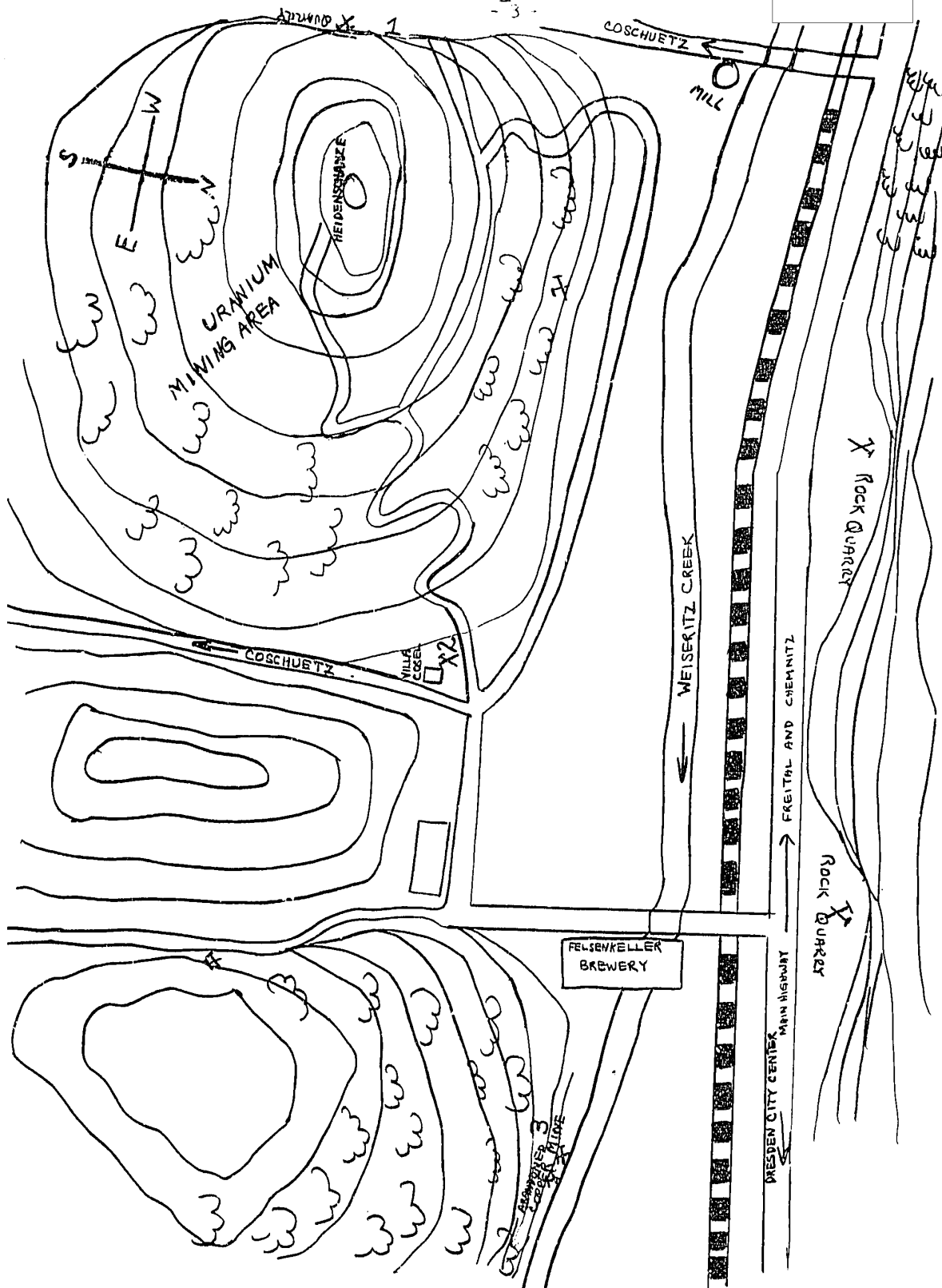
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4. ROCK FORMATION: Rock formation in the area is exclusively red granite beneath from between three to ten feet of clay. There is limestone in greater depth where coal had been found for many years.
5. MISCELLANEOUS: No uranium mining operations were conducted in the Dresden area prior to 1947. However, there has been extensive coal and copper mining dating back to the 19th century. One copper shaft, starting at the Villa Cosel (2), leads northward beneath the highway for about four or five kilometers. Two copper shafts just east of the Felsenkeller brewery (3) were used by the German Army during World War II as storage for secret war materials.

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